

"TOGETHER, WE CAN DO A LOT."



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Comments on the Western Oregon Plan Revisions (WOPR)

The WOPR does not adequately address fungal issues. A great deal of the BLM land in the Illinois Valley, where I live, is prime matsutake mushroom habitat, a matter of social and economic significance. The current fuels reduction practices utilizing heavy equipment are massively destroying this matsutake habitat. This destructive impact, coupled with the currently expressed BLM indifference to this impact, is indicative of a more general BLM lack of attention to the general fate of fungi and a lack of honoring of their essential role in forest health, productivity and sustainability.

In short, the WOPR does not address the impact of proposed management plans on fungal health and sustainability. It is critical to long-term management for sustainability that the BLM learn how to do so.

It is going to take time for the BLM to learn the relationships and habits of fungal awareness, and management must move forward during this development period. I will view whatever plans are put in place to be ongoing draft plans to be influenced by ongoing input from the scientific, harvester, buyer and local community stakeholders. I consider a BLM focus on developing an open, transparent shared input process on this topic to be a high priority to enable and promote responsible management.

Respectfully,

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Forestry Action Committee

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